20th CENTURY STUDIOS

PREDATOR™

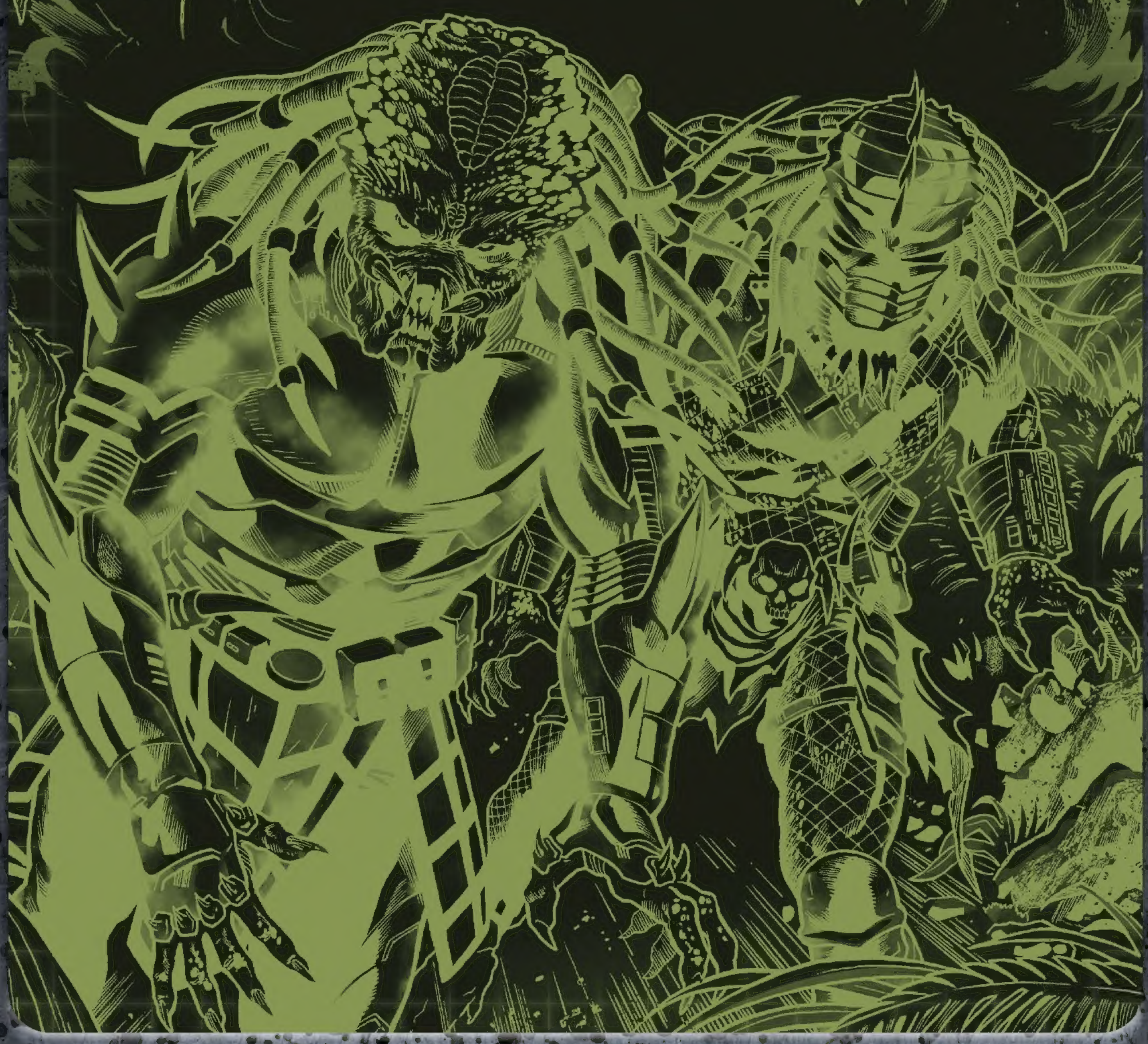
BRISSON
DIAZ
BRABO
ARCINIEGA

THE PRESERVE

IN ASSOCIATION WITH MARVEL

PREDATOR

THE PRESERVE



PREDATOR™

1987: In Central America, an elite mercenary team is stalked by a Predator, hunting them for sport. Only one member of the team survives and manages to kill the Predator.

1997: A Predator comes to Los Angeles to hunt gang members involved in a drug war with the police. Though many were slaughtered, one policeman was able to kill the Predator.

2010: Eight individuals are abducted from Earth and dropped on an unknown planet where they are hunted by three Predators. They come to learn they are being hunted for sport and that the planet is a game preserve.

2018: A Predator crash-lands in America and is apprehended by Project Stargazer for study. It escapes but is killed by another Predator. A group of military criminals are able to defeat and kill the Predator, but only a small number survive.

2056: Humanity is capable of interstellar travel. A group of Astar Industry scientists researching a remote planet for potential human colonization was killed by a Predator. A young girl named Theta Berwick survived and, after fifteen years of hunting, finally murdered the Yautja who had killed her parents.

Now the year is 2062, and the Predators' games have evolved...

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THE PRESERVE

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1

PREDATOR: THE PRESERVE

=HUFF=
=HUFF=

WHAT...=HUFF= WHAT *THE HELL* ARE...WE...=HUFF=... RUNNING FROM?

DAMNED IF I KNOW. LOOKED LIKE THE JUNGLE ***CAME ALIVE*** AND GUTTED ANOTHER SOLDIER RIGHT IN FRONT OF ME.

RSSTL

QUIET!

GO! GO! GO!

BANG BANG BANG BANG BANG

AH, SHI--

BANG BANG

SHRRIIIP

MOVE.

NOW.

FWAK

GUH...

MY ANKLE...I TWISTED IT. YOU GOTTA HELP ME, MAN.

PLEASE...

ASSHOLE!

NONONONONO...

SHIT.

SHUNK

SKRRAAAAW!

BRAKKA BRAKKA BRAKKA BRAKKA BRAKKA

DIE, YOU SON OF A BITCH!

BRAKKA BRAKKA BRAKKA

GRAAAAAAH!

AKKA BRAKKA BRAKKA

SHUNK

DAMMIT. WHAT THE 'ELL ARE THESE THINGS?

KEEP MOVING!

THEY'RE *HERDING* US. WE NEED TO *SPREAD OUT.*

FIND COVER. WE NEED TO REGROUP AND COME UP WITH A STRATEGY.

WE *NEED* TO STOP RUNNING AND MAKE A *STAND.*

THAT'S WHAT WE *NEED* TO DO!

YOU DO WHAT YOU WANT, BUT I'M DONE SCREWIN' AROUND WITH THOSE THINGS. I'M GON--

SHIT.

IT'S IN THE TREES!

BRAKKA BRAKKA BRAKKA BRAKKA BRAKKA...

THEY'RE EVERYWHERE!

THIS WAY.

GET OFF OF--

EASY, MISSY.

I AIN'T ONE 'A THEM.

FOLLOW ME. QUICK NOW.

FOUND TWO MORE STRAGGLERS.

MONSTERS GOT THE REST OF 'EM.

OKAY...WHO THE HELL IS EVERYONE, AND MORE IMPORTANTLY, WHO KNOWS WHERE WE ARE AND HOW WE GOT HERE?

ALLEN. AND NO IDEA.

I WAS JUST DOWN AT THE PUB.

NEXT THING... WELL...I DUNNO. THERE WAS A BRIGHT LIGHT, THEN I'M FALLING THROUGH THE BLEEDIN' SKY.

I'M BEAU. WAS IN THE MIDDLE OF A TRAININ' EXERCISE AND...SAME AS THE BRIT. FLASH OF LIGHT, AND HERE I AM.

OMAR. I'M A SECURITY CONSULTANT.

I WAS IN A DAMNED DESERT, LAST THING I REMEMBER. MY TEAM WAS AMBUSHED, THEN...I'M *HERE.*

KIYOSHI YAKUSBO. JAPANESE SELF-DEFENSE FORCES.

WE WERE RESPONDING TO AN INCIDENT IN MATSUE. SAW HALF MY PLATOON TAKEN OUT BEFORE...

...SAME AS THE REST OF YOU. BRIGHT LIGHT. PARACHUTE. *ALIENS.*

NAME'S ERNESTO. I'M CAFGU.*

WE WERE IN THE MIDDLE OF--

BULLSHIT.

*CITIZENS ARMED FORCE GEOGRAPHICAL UNIT.

THE PHILIPPINES DISBANDED THE CAFGU IN 2042.

YOU GET HIT IN THE HEAD WHEN YOU LANDED? *2042?* WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU *TALKING ABOUT?*

THEY... REBRANDED AFTER THE MASSACRE AT CEBU. IT'S BEEN THE NATIONAL ARMY OF THE PHILIPPINES FOR THE LAST *EIGHT YEARS.*

SHE'S RIGHT.

WHAT'S YOUR NAME?

AWJA.

MILITARY AS WELL?

YES.

WANT TO ELABORATE?

NO.

WELL, AWJA IS RIGHT. THE CAFGU WAS DISBANDED.

EXCEPT 2042 WAS *THIRTEEN YEARS AGO,* NOT *EIGHT.*

WHAT THE HELL IS THIS?

WE'RE OUT HERE FIGHTING FOR OUR LIVES, AND THE TWO OF YOU WANT TO PLAY TIME-TRAVELERS?!

WHAT YEAR DO *YOU* THINK IT IS?

IT'S 2015.

2022.

IT'S... LAST I REMEMBER... 1987.

2018.

1997.

Y'ALL GOTTA *STOP* PLAYIN' NOW.

'CAUSE THERE AIN'T NO WAY I'M BUYIN' THAT WE'VE BEEN KIDNAPPED BY *TIME-TRAVELIN' MONSTER MEN.*

YOU'RE *HALF* RIGHT.

I DON'T THINK THAT THEY'RE TIME-TRAVELERS EITHER.

WHEN I CAME TO, I FELT... I MEAN, I WAS DROPPING THROUGH THE AIR, SO I WASN'T DOING GREAT, BUT ASIDE FROM THAT...

...I HAD NAUSEA, CRAMPS, AND I FELT...SORE, ACHY.

LIKE I'D *JUST* COME OUT OF A *COMA.*

WHAT'RE YOU SAYING? THAT THOSE THINGS PUT US INTO *HYPERSLEEP* AND JUST WOKE US UP TO *HUNT US?*

LIKE THEY'VE BEEN...WHAT? COLLECTING US? SAVING US UP TO HUNT?

MAYBE? I'M JUST *SPECULATING.*

DON'T KNOW WHAT THE HELL *HYPERSLEEP* IS. ALL I KNOW IS I WOKE UP WITH A HELL OF A CRAMP IN MY GUT. PUKED UP MY BREAKFAST BEFORE I EVEN HIT THE GROUND, DIDN'T I?

ME TOO.

OKAY, SAY FOR A SECOND THAT I BUY THAT WE WERE KIDNAPPED AND STUCK IN A CRYOCHAMBER FOR WHO KNOWS HOW LONG...

...HOW DO WE KILL THESE MONSTERS AND GET *BACK HOME?*

NOT MONSTERS...

...YOU HAD IT RIGHT EARLIER. THEY'RE ***ALIENS.***

WE CALL THEM ***PREDATORS.***

WE HAVE FILES ON THEM, THREE ENCOUNTERS THAT WE'RE AWARE OF. COLUMBIA IN 1987, L.A. IN 1997, AND THEN IN 2018, THEY WERE IN MEXICO, TENNESSEE, GEORGIA.

WE HAD ONE THEN. WE WERE STUDYING IT, PART OF A JOINT INVESTIGATION.

ISLA...WE CAN'T. THAT INFORMATION IS--

WHAT? WE'RE ***NOT*** SUPPOSED TO TALK ABOUT IT, LUCAS?

WE'RE IN IT NOW. OUR ONLY OPTION OF GETTING OUT OF THIS IS IF ***EVERYONE*** KNOWS WHAT WE'RE UP AGAINST. IF WE SHARE INFORMATION.

THESE THINGS, THEY'RE HUNTERS. ***KILLERS.***

THE ORGANIZATION WE WORK FOR, O.W.L.F.--THE *O*THER *W*ORLDLY *L*IFE-*F*ORMS PROGRAM--WAS CALLED PROJECT STARGAZER FOR A WHILE. WE...THEY CAPTURED ONE BACK IN 2018, BUT IT BROKE FREE, KILLED ***EVERYONE*** IT CAME IN CONTACT WITH BEFORE ESCAPING.

DOZENS OF ARMED SOLDIERS. LIKE THEY WERE ***NOTHING.***

AND THE TWO OF YOU MANAGED TO SURVIVE?

WE WERE ON OUR HONEYMOON.

A WEEK EARLIER OR LATER, WE WOULD HAVE BEEN DEAD LIKE THE OTHERS.

YOU'VE STUDIED THESE THINGS, THEN? YOU'RE LIKE *SCIENTISTS?*

SOLDIERS. WE NEVER SET FOOT IN THE LAB.

WE ONLY SAW VIDEO AFTER THE FACT.

BUT YOU KNOW HOW TO *KILL* THEM?

BULLETS.

LOTS AND LOTS OF BULLETS.

THAT, AND A METRIC SHIT TON OF LUCK.

WELL, HELL. I KNOW A PLACE WHERE THERE'S PLENTY OF GUNS AND AMMO...

"...JUST LAYIN' ABOUT, UNUSED."

THIS IS *GRIM.*

WE NEED ALL THE WEAPONS AND AMMUNITION WE CAN GET OUR HANDS ON. THE DEAD WON'T BE NEEDING THEM.

I'M TALKING ABOUT THOSE BASTARDS TAKING THEIR HEADS FOR WHAT--*TROPHIES?*

IT'S *SICK.*

OY...

THOSE WHAT I THINK THEY ARE?

SUPPLY CRATES?

SO I AIN'T SEEIN' THINGS, THEN.

COULD BE A TRAP.

WHAT ELSE WOULD IT BE?

THEY KNOW THAT WE'RE GOING TO NEED FOOD EVENTUALLY.

IF IT WERE ME, I'D STAKE OUT THE SUPPLY CRATES--WAIT FOR MY PREY TO COME TO ME.

ME TOO.

AND THERE'S NO GUARANTEE THERE'S ANYTHING IN THOSE CRATES THAT WOULD BE OF ANY USE TO US.

MAYBE.

BUT, EVEN WITH THE EXTRA WEAPONS, WE'RE NOT GOING TO SURVIVE LONG WITHOUT FOOD.

I'M WITH AWJA. WE SHOULD CONSIDER IT.

THESE THINGS... WE'RE NO GOOD TO THEM IF WE'RE WEAK. COULD BE THEY'RE FEEDING US TO KEEP US HEALTHY, KEEP US GOING.

LET'S PUT IT TO A VOTE.

THAT *AIN'T* NO SUPPLY CRATE.

THEN WHAT THE HELL IS IT?

KEEP ME COVERED, I'LL CHECK 'ER OUT.

AIN'T NO GRUB IN THIS ONE.

LOOKS LIKE IT WAS USED TO TRANSPORT SOMETHIN' *LIVE.*

I KNEW IT WAS A *GOT-DAMNED* WASTE 'A TIME TO COME OUT HERE.

NOW WE'RE *EXPOSED*, AND--

KRAAARKRIKRKRK!

BRAKKA BRAKKA

BRAKKABRAKKABRAKKABRAKKABR

KRARKR!!

KRAAAAAARKRIKR!!

BRAKKA

BRAKKA

NO!

SHOOT IT!
SHOOT IT!

BRAKKA BRAKKA BRAKKA

KRAKAKRIKRIKRIK

BRAKKA BRAKKA

KRIKIKIKIKIK

KARAK

ERNESTO!

WHERE ARE THE OTHERS?

SPLIT AS SOON AS THAT THING REARED ITS UGLY MUG.

BULLETS AREN'T DOING ANYTHING TO IT.

I GOT SOMETHING MORE...

...IF THIS CAN'T STOP IT, NOTHING WILL.

KRIKKAKRIKRIK!

TO BE CONTINUED

YOU COULD HAVE KILLED ME WITH THAT!

AYE...

...BUT HE DIDN'T, AND NOW YOU'RE GOOD AS GOLD, AIN'T YA?

FWAK

IS THIS ONE OF *THEIRS?* THE ONES HUNTING US?

I DON'T EVEN KNOW WHAT THE HELL TO THINK ANYMORE.

I DON'T THINK SO.

WE KNOW THEY SOMETIMES USE *DOGLIKE* CREATURES, LIKE HOUNDS. BUT I HAVEN'T SEEN *ANYTHING* LIKE THIS.

WELL, LOOK WHO DECIDED TO MAKE AN APPEARANCE NOW THAT THE DANGER'S BEEN DEALT WITH.

YOU SURE THAT THING'S *DEAD?*

AMAZING.

'ERE YA GO.

THANKS.

WE'RE NOT THE *ONLY ONES* THEY'RE HUNTING.

I THINK... I THINK THEY'RE COLLECTING DEADLY CREATURES, USING THIS SPACE AS A...

...A HUNTING PRESERVE.

SO WE'RE JUST GAME STOCK FOR THEM.

LIKE SOME SORT OF DAMNED *ALIEN SAFARI.*

THEY'RE TESTING THEMSELVES.

HUNTING THE DEADLIEST PREY IN THE GALAXY SO THAT THEY CAN BECOME...

KIKKKKA--

...

NO.

KRAKAKRIKRIKKR AKRIK!

ISLA!

STAY BACK, LUCAS. PLEASE!

STAY BACK!

KRAKRIK!

SHRAAAK

WHA...

KLIK
KLIK
KLIK

BRAKKA
BRAKKA

FWAK

BRAKKA BRAKKA BRAKK

BRAKKA
BRAKKA
BRAKKA

SHIK

SON OF A BITCH.

WE CAN'T RUN, WE HAVE TO MAKE A STAND.

WELL, LET'S STOP GABBIN' ABOUT IT AND TAKE DOWN THIS ARSEHOLE.

BRAKKA BRAKKA BR

SHUK

SHING

ARGGGH!

SHIK

ISLA, WE NEED TO GO NOW, WHILE IT'S DISTRACTED.

WE...

PLEASE, ISLA.

WE NEED TO RUN OR THAT THING IS GOING TO *KILL US!*

I NEED AN ASSIST OVER HERE!

THIS THING HAS GOT ME PINNED--

OOOF!

KLIK
KLIK
KLIK
KLIK

GUUUUK...

GO!

UGH!

BRAKKA BRAKKA BRAKKA

HEY...

...LEAVE HIM ALONE.

SHRAAK

I'M THETA. THIS IS PAOLO.

IF YOU WANT TO GET THE HELL OFF THIS PLANET, COME WITH US.

SKRAAAAAW!

BEEP

TAK TAK TAK

WARZONE

KABOOM

"THE HELL WAS THAT?"

"SHHHH..."

OKAY...

ALL RIGHT. THIS WAY.

WHAT *WERE* THOSE THINGS?

MORE CREATURES FOR THE *PREDATORS* TO *HUNT.*

WE NEED TO *KEEP* MOVING.

THAT EXPLOSION MEANS THEY'VE FOUND THEIR DEAD FRIEND.

THEY'RE GOING TO BE *LOOKING* FOR US.

AND WE STILL HAVE A *LONG WAY* TO GO.

HOLD UP, THETA.

YOU SWOOPING IN AT THE LAST MINUTE TO SAVE US WHILE *DRESSED* LIKE ONE OF *THEM*...

...IT OPENS UP *A LOT* OF QUESTIONS, AND I WANT SOME *ANSWERS* ABOUT WHAT'S GOING ON AROUND HERE BEFORE WE GO *ANY* FARTHER.

WHAT'S GOING ON IS YOU'RE BEING *HUNTED.*

THESE ARE THEIR *TRAINING* GROUNDS.

THESE PREDATORS ARE USING YOU AS PRACTICE, OMAR.

A CHANCE FOR THEM TO *IMPROVE* THEIR SKILLS.

NOTHING MORE.

IF YOU WANT TO *WAIT* HERE FOR THEM TO FIND YOU, *GO AHEAD.*

PLEASE...

...WHAT YEAR IS IT?

IT'S 2062.

YOU'RE *SURE?*

APRIL 13, 2062.

COULD BE THE 14TH, MAYBE. THE DAYS HERE ARE LONGER.

NO. IT *CAN'T* BE TRUE.

OH GOD.

ARE YOU...?

...WHEN DID YOU *THINK* IT WAS?

MY HUSBAND AND...I... JUST YESTERDAY, IT WAS 2022 FOR US. THE OTHERS, THEY'RE...

...THE SAME, YOU KNOW, BUT *DIFFERENT YEARS.*

IS IT POSSIBLE THAT THESE THINGS, THAT THEY'RE...

...COULD THEY BE *TIME-TRAVELERS?*

WHAT?

MAYBE THEY TOOK US FROM 2022 AND *BROUGHT* US HERE...TO THE FUTURE? AND MAYBE... MAYBE THERE'S A WAY *BACK* TO 2022?

WE...WE WERE PART OF A TEAM STUDYING THEM, BUT WE DIDN'T KNOW *MUCH.* A LOT OF IT WAS *CLASSIFIED.* KEPT FROM US.

ABOVE OUR PAY GRADE, YOU KNOW? THIS COULD BE *ONE OF THE THINGS* WE DIDN'T--

NO.

I'VE BEEN FOLLOWING THESE CREATURES FOR NEARLY *TWENTY YEARS.*

I'VE BEEN ON THEIR SHIPS. PAOLO AND I HAVE *SCOURED* THEIR DATA LOGS.

I HAVEN'T SEEN ANYTHING ABOUT TIME TRAVEL. THAT'S FANTASY. IT DOESN'T EXIST.

ISLA, WE ALREADY DETERMINED THAT THEY HAD US IN *STASIS.* THE SIGNS ARE ALL--

THAT WAS ONLY A THEORY, LUCAS!

WE *DON'T* KNOW FOR CERTAIN!

STASIS?

ARE YOU *SURE?*

IS THIS *TRUE?* YOU... YOU'RE ALL FROM *DIFFERENT TIMES?*

UNLESS THIS IS A MASSIVE PRANK... *YEAH.* THE EIGHTIES RIGHT UP UNTIL TWENTY-FIFTY SOMETHING.

TWENTY-FIFTY-*FIVE.*

THEY'RE...

...KEEPING A *FARM OF PEOPLE* ON ICE UNTIL *NEEDED?*

I THOUGHT THE TWO OF *YOU* WERE *SUPPOSED* TO BE THE *EXPERTS* ON THESE THINGS.

YOU DIDN'T KNOW ABOUT THIS?

NO.

TAK TAK TAK

AND RIGHT NOW, WE *DON'T* HAVE *TIME* TO DEAL WITH IT.

THIS IS THE DEAD PREDATOR'S SHIP. THE OTHERS WILL BE HEADED THIS WAY *SOON.*

WAIT HERE AND KEEP *OUT OF SIGHT.*

WHAT HAPPENS *NEXT?* AFTER THIS, I MEAN? WHERE'S SHE TAKING US?

BACK TO OUR SHIP. WE'LL BRING YOU TO A NEARBY ASTAR OUTPOST AND DROP YOU OFF A FEW MILES AWAY SO YOU CAN HIKE IN. ASTAR INDUSTRIES WILL BE ABLE TO BRING YOU BACK TO EARTH.

AND IF WE DON'T *WANT* TO GO BACK?

THAT'S BETWEEN *YOU AND THEM.* YOU DON'T HAVE TO GO BACK, BUT YOU *CAN'T* STAY WITH US AND WE'RE *NOT* LEAVING YOU HERE.

SO, WHY US, *EH?* WHY DID THOSE THINGS CHOOSE US OF *ALL PEOPLE?*

YOU'RE SOLDIERS, *RIGHT?* ALL OF YOU?

MOSTLY.

I AIN'T, THE REST IS.

LIKE THETA SAID, THIS IS...IT'S A *TRAINING PLANET* FOR THESE THINGS. A PLACE WHERE THEY TEST THEIR SKILLS AGAINST OTHER...OTHER *FIGHTERS.* SOLDIERS, WARRIORS, *WHATEVER.*

OUR THEORY IS THAT THEY TAKE SOLDIERS DURING TIMES OF CONFLICT AND BRING THEM HERE TO HUNT.

SO THEY'RE *WATCHING* US ON EARTH? *WAITING* FOR WARS TO BREAK OUT?

IT'S A WORKING THEORY.

SURE, BUT IF THEY'RE TAKING SOLDIERS, WHY NOT KEEP TROOPS TOGETHER? WHY NOT ME AND THE *REST* OF MY PLATOON INSTEAD OF...

...WHATEVER *THIS* MOTLEY CREW IS?

NONE OF US HAVE EXPERIENCE FIGHTING TOGETHER. I'M NOT SURE I EVEN TRUST HALF THE PEOPLE HERE. WE'RE AT A *DISADVANTAGE.*

IF THEY WANTED A *REAL* CHALLENGE, THEY'D KEEP TRAINED CREWS TOGETHER.

HONESTLY, WE *JUST* DISCOVERED THIS PLANET. WE'RE STILL TRYING TO FIGURE IT ALL OUT.

THOUGH IF I HAD TO GUESS, I ASSUME THEY'RE LOOKING TO TEST THEMSELVES AGAINST AS *MANY FIGHTING STYLES* AS POSSIBLE, AS OPPOSED TO *SHEER NUMBERS* OF *ORGANIZED COMBATANTS.*

THING I'M HAVIN' TROUBLE WRAPPIN' MY BRAIN AROUND.

EVERYONE HERE, THEY'RE OUT THERE IN THE BATTLEFIELD, PLAYIN' SHOOT 'EM UP, FIGHTIN' SOME WAR, THEN GET GRABBED UP BY ALIENS LOOKIN' TO TEST THEIR METTLE.

ME, I'M AT THE PUB, *KNOCKIN' HEADS.*

HARDLY THE BATTLE OF THE FALKLANDS--JUST A BUNCH 'A *SLOBBERIN' DRUNKS* SWINGIN' ON ONE 'NOTHER.

YET *HERE I AM.*

I DON'T KNOW HOW TO ACCOUNT FOR THAT.

ME NEITHER.

DOUBT THESE BASTARDS HAVE SOME KINDA *ADMIN DEPARTMENT* THAT'S KEEPING TRACK 'A ALL OF US *BRAWLERS.*

BUT WHAT THE HELL DO I KNOW 'BOUT IT?

ALL RIGHT...

...WE'VE STILL GOT A *LONG TREK* AHEAD OF US.

KLIK
KLIK
KLIK

EVERYTHING OKAY?

YEAH.

JUST SPOOKED, I GUESS.

SANDY...

...DECLOAK.

AFFIRMATIVE.

WELCOME TO *THE SANDPIPER*. GET ON, FAST.

WAIT...WHERE ARE *AWJA AND ERNESTO?*

HERE!

APPARENTLY, THE GIRL WAS GETTING SPOOKED BY THE--

SNAP

AMBUSH!

TAKE COVER!

=HUFF HUFF=

WHERE THE *HELL IS IT?*

IT'S BEEN FOLLOWING US. IT'S *IN THE TREES.*

THAT *DON'T* HELP, LOVE...

...THIS WHOLE PLANET AIN'T *NOTHIN' BUT TREES.*

THERE!

BRAKKA BRAKKA BRAKKA

TAKE THESE AND GET EVERYONE ON BOARD.

I'LL TAKE CARE OF THIS BASTARD.

SCREW THIS, I'M *NOT* DYING ON THIS DAMN PLANET.

EVERYONE ON THE SHIP, NOW!

I'M *NOT* LEAVING TO LET HER FIGHT THOSE THINGS *ALONE.*

JUST NEED TO...

I'VE BEEN WITH THETA FOR *FIVE YEARS NOW* AND *ONE THING* I'VE LEARNED IS...

...IF SHE TELLS YOU TO DO SOMETHING, YOU *DO IT.*

UNAUTHORIZED ACCESS.

CEASE NOW OR--

OR WHAT?

THESE OLD ASTAR AR-TX87 SHIPS ARE PRACTICALLY *BEGGING* TO BE STOLEN WITH THEIR OUTDATED SECURITY.

HAVEN'T SEEN ONE OF THESE IN FIFTEEN, TWENTY YEARS.

URRRRRR

NO!

THE SHIP...

"...IT'S LEAVING WITHOUT US."

SANDY?

SANDY, LAND THE SHIP.

NOW!

NUUUGHNN!

SHUK

SCRAAAAW!

DO IT.

JUST END IT, YOU BASTARD.

COME ON, PEOPLE! THE SHIP ISN'T COMING BACK...

...AND THETA NEEDS OUR HELP *NOW.*

OH, NO.

IT'S THEM...

KRAAW!

...THEY'RE BACK.

DO IT!

WHAT...?

SKRAAAAAAW.

DO IT, YOU COWARD!

KRAAK

SHIK

SKRAAAW!

SHUK

THWUMP

SHHH.

ALLEN...

LET'S GET YOU *OUTTA 'ERE* WHILE THE BEASTIES ARE *BUSY* WITH ONE ANOTHER.

SHUK

SKRAAAAW!

C'MON NOW. AIN'T *TOO MUCH* FURTHER TO GO.

JUST A *FEW MORE* STEPS...

"...UNTIL WE'RE *FREE* FROM ALL 'A THIS."

SET DESTINATION-- EARTH.

ESTIMATED TRAVEL TIME: 252 DAYS, 18 HOURS, 32 MINUTES.

ENTER PASSCODE TO CONFIRM.

LAY *ANOTHER* FINGER ON THAT KEYBOARD, KIYOSHI, AND I'LL *BLOW YOUR BRAINS* ALL OVER THE CONSOLE.

YOU SHOOT ME, THE SHIP *CRASHES*, AND *WE'RE* BOTH DEAD, AWJA.

UNLESS *YOU* KNOW HOW TO PILOT AN ASTAR AR-TX87.

I'LL TAKE MY CHANCES.

LOOK, I JUST WANT TO GO *HOME*, OKAY?

I'VE GOT *FAMILY* WHO HAVE NO IDEA WHAT HAPPENED TO ME.

WHO PROBABLY THINK I'M *DEAD*.

AND THAT'S WHAT THETA SAID SHE'D DO. BRING US *HOME*.

NO...

...SHE SAID SHE'D DROP US OFF NEAR AN *ASTAR OUTPOST*. THAT'S *NOT* THE SAME.

I DON'T TRUST ASTAR WITH MY LIFE AND *NEITHER* SHOULD YOU.

THEY'RE DRIVEN BY *PROFIT*, AND THERE'S *NO MONEY* IN TRANSPORTING A GROUP OF *STRANGERS* ACROSS THE GALAXY.

BUT THERE *IS* IN STUDYING A GROUP OF PEOPLE WHO'VE BEEN IN *STASIS* FOR UPWARD OF *HALF A CENTURY*.

I'M NOT INTERESTED IN BEING SOMEONE'S *GUINEA PIG*.

ARE *YOU*?

THETA!

WHO... WHERE...

...SANDY?

OH GOD, YOUR ARM.

KIYOSHI AND AWJA, THEY...THEY TOOK OFF WITH SANDY. I'M SORRY.

NOT... GONNA... I...

WE'RE GOING TO GET YOU SOMEWHERE SAFE, SEE WHAT WE CAN DO ABOUT PATCHING YOU UP, OKAY?

MAYBE WE CAN DOUBLE BACK TO THE PREDATOR SHIP, GET IT BACK IN WORKING CONDITION OR FIND ONE OF THE OTHER TWO SHIPS, THERE'S THREE OF THEM RIGHT, SO THERE'S GOT TO BE--

NO... WON'T...WON'T... WOR--

THOSE OTHER CREATURES BOUGHT US SOME TIME, BUT IF WE DON'T GET MOVING NOW, WE'RE--

LOOK!

BOOOM

URRRR

LET'S GO!

SKREE SKRIK SKRIK

SKRAAAAW!

SHIK

SKRIK KRIK KRIK

RAAW

SHUNK

SCRIK

SHUNK

SKRAAAAW.

SKRAAAAW!

TAK TAK TAK

KABOOM

THIS IS A *MISTAKE.* I *PANICKED,* THAT'S ALL.

YOU *CAN'T* KEEP ME PRISONER.

QUIET.

DON'T YOU WANT TO GO *HOME?*

AREN'T THERE PEOPLE WHO *MISS* YOU?

I *DO,* AND THERE *ARE.*

THE SAME IS TRUE OF THE *OTHERS* THAT YOU TRIED TO *LEAVE BEHIND* TO *DIE* ON THAT PLANET.

IF I'D HAD *MY WAY,* WE WOULD HAVE LEFT *YOU* BEHIND INSTEAD OF LOCKING YOU UP.

BE *GRATEFUL* THAT THE OTHERS FELT *OTHERWISE.*

"YOU OWE THEM YOUR LIFE."

NGGGH!

SANDY, INCREASE THE MORPHINE TO .03 MG.

ARE YOU SURE--?

YES, I'M SURE. SHE'S IN AN INCREDIBLE AMOUNT OF PAIN. DO IT!

IS SHE GONNA MAKE IT?

YOU STANDING OVER ME AND *BREATHING DOWN MY NECK* ISN'T *HELPING* HER CHANCES, ALLEN.

OMAR, I NEED YOU TO GO TO THE CONTROL PANEL. ADMIN CODE VICTOR-ALPHA-LIMA-MIKE-MIKE-NOVEMBER-YANKEE-FOUR-FIVE-EIGHT-NINE.

OKAY, GOT IT.

SANDY, INITIATE COMMAND ROMEO-ALPHA-PAPA-PAPA.

STARTING FROM THE LATERAL HEAD OF THE RIGHT TRICEP BRACHII MUSCLE.

YOU WANT TO *HELP HER?* STAND OVER HER AND HOLD HER *ABSOLUTELY STILL.*

THIS SCAN NEEDS TO BE AS *PRECISE AS POSSIBLE* IF THIS IS GOING TO WORK.

WHARRRR

HNNNNNNNNNGH.

ED

ALL WE CAN DO NOW IS *WAIT* AND HOPE HER BODY ACCEPTS THE NEW ARM.

I CAN'T BELIEVE IT.

THE AMOUNT OF PREDATOR TECH HERE...

...I MEAN, LOOK...

O.W.L.F. NEVER HAD A *FRACTION* OF THIS, LUCAS.*

MAYBE THEY DO *NOW?*

IT'S BEEN *FORTY YEARS,* WE DON'T KNOW WHAT'S HAPPENED IN THE TIME WE'VE BEEN GONE.

*OTHER WORLDLY LIFE-FORMS PROGRAM.

HELL, WE DON'T EVEN KNOW IF THE O.W.L.F. STILL *EXISTS,* ISLA.

BUT WHAT IF THEY *DO?* WHAT IF THEY DO AND *DON'T* HAVE ACCESS TO *ANY OF THIS?*

IMAGINE *HOW MANY* LIVES COULD BE SAVED.

THERE'S MORE... LET ME SHOW YOU.

PAOLO PLUGGED *THAT* IN BEFORE RUSHING OFF TO HELP THETA.

BY CHANCE, I DISCOVERED...

TAK

...THIS.

IS THIS...?

HUNTING ROUTES AND SITES WHERE PREDATORS HAVE BEEN SPOTTED. THETA HAS KEPT LOGS OF ***EVERY*** HUNT, MADE PREDICTIONS FOR ***WHERE*** THEY'RE HEADED NEXT.

AND ***LOOK.***

TAK

THESE MONSTERS ARE HEADED TO ***EARTH.***

WHEN?

I DON'T KNOW...I...I HAVEN'T BEEN ABLE TO FIGURE IT ALL OUT, ***NOT YET.*** A LOT OF IT HAS ONLY BEEN PARTIALLY TRANSCRIBED.

SO, THIS COULD BE ***PAST*** HUNTS? PLACES THEY'VE ***ALREADY*** BEEN?

THINK OF WHAT WE ***LEFT BEHIND,*** LUCAS...

"...IS THAT *A* ***RISK*** YOU WANT TO TAKE?"

SHE'S GONNA BE *OKAY.*

YOU DID *GOOD.*

I DON'T KNOW.

THIS...THIS IS ***HER*** MISSION. I'M JUST HER TAGALONG.

I DON'T KNOW WHAT I'M GOING TO DO IF SHE'S ***NOT*** OKAY.

I...

I'VE BEEN WITH HER FOR FIVE YEARS. EVER SINCE ONE OF THOSE THINGS TOOK OUT THE CREW OF THE SHIP I WAS ON. KILLED ***DOZENS*** OF TRAINED SOLDIERS LIKE IT WAS ***NOTHING.***

IF NOT FOR HER, I'D BE ***DEAD TOO.***

IF NOT FOR THE TWO OF YOU, ***SO WOULD WE.***

THIS WHAT YOU DO? YOU AND HER?

GO TO PLANETS, *SAVE PEOPLE* LIKE US?

NO, WE *DIDN'T KNOW* YOU'D BE THERE.

WE'VE BEEN FOLLOWING THEIR HUNTING ROUTES, TRYING TO FIND THEIR *HOME.*

THETA...WE...UH...WE'VE BEEN LOOKING FOR A *LONG TIME.*

HOPING THAT IF WE COULD *FIND THEM,* THAT WE COULD WIPE THEM *ALL* OUT.

NOT JUST *ONE BY ONE.*

HOW *MANY* OF 'EM ARE THERE?

NO IDEA.

IN *TWENTY YEARS* OF HUNTING THEM, SHE'S KILLED *THIRTY-ONE.*

BUT IT'S NOT *NEARLY* ENOUGH.

NOT EVEN *CLOSE.*

HEY, AWJÁ...

...I'M STARVING. THERE'S GOT TO BE FOOD ON THIS SHIP. CAN YOU--

THERE ARE MORE PRESSING MATTERS THAN YOUR HUNGER.

WHEN THINGS HAVE SETTLED, I'LL ASK FOR--

WHAT?

FINAL

HURRY.

WOOSH

WHAT'S *THIS*, *THEN?*

YOU'VE COME TO *KILL ME?* COULD HAVE JUST LEFT ME BEHIND.

NO. WE JUST NEED *ASSURANCES.*

WHAT SORT OF ASSURANCES?

THAT YOU CAN FLY THIS THING *BACK* TO *EARTH.*

THE OTHER CAPTAIN *DIE?*

NOT YET.

BUT WE'RE TAKING THE SHIP ANYWAY.

NFFF.

...WHAT?

YOU'RE AWAKE.

DON'T GET UP, YOU NEED TO REST.

MY ARM...

...WHAT... HAPPENED, PAOLO? I...

I'M SORRY, WE COULDN'T SAVE IT, THETA... YOU WERE LOSING SO MUCH BLOOD, WE HAD TO GET YOU INTO THE INFIRMARY AS SOON AS WE COULD.

...LOOKS LIKE I'VE...

...GOT A MATCHING...

...SET...

THE OTHERS?

MOST OF US MADE IT OUT WITH BARELY A SCRAPE.

ERNESTO *WASN'T* SO LUCKY.

I...

SANDY... SOMEONE STOLE...

BUT...

KIYOSHI THOUGHT HE'D MAKE OUT ON HIS OWN AN' *TA HELL* WITH US.

BUT DON'T YOU *WORRY* NONE...

"...WE'VE DEALT WITH THE BUGGER."

NO.

WE'RE NOT KILLING AWJA OR *ANYONE ELSE*, KIYOSHI.

IT'S A *LONG RIDE* BACK TO EARTH, LADY.

YOU GOING TO KEEP AN EYE ON THE REST OF THE CREW THE *WHOLE TIME?*

WE'LL KEEP THEM LOCKED UP.

THERE'S NO REASON FOR US TO RESORT TO KILLING.

WE'RE NOT *CRIMINALS.*

FINE. WE'LL TRY IT YOUR WAY. *YOU'LL SEE.*

HELP ME GET HER INTO THE HOLDING ROOM.

IF WE'RE GOING TO TAKE THEM BY SURPRISE, WE NEED TO TAKE OUT THEIR SECURITY SYSTEM.

OTHERWISE, THEY'LL SEE US COMING AND SEAL US OFF FROM THE CONTROL CENTER.

IF WE CAN GET TO THE PROCESSOR ROOM, WE SHOULD BE ABLE TO TAKE THEIR SYSTEMS OFFLINE.

ISLA, YOU COME WITH ME.

NO.

I'LL GO WITH YOU. ISLA CAN WATCH--

YOU AND I ARE ***BOTH*** INJURED, LUCAS. I NEED SOMEONE WHO'S GOT THEIR ***FULL FACULTIES*** ABOUT THEM TO WATCH MY BACK OUT THERE IN CASE SHIT ***GETS HOT.***

YOU, ON THE OTHER HAND, ONLY HAVE TO STAND AROUND GUARDING A LOCKED DOOR.

THETA, THIS IS INADVISABLE.

AFTER AN OPERATION OF THIS SEVERITY--

I KNOW. I KNOW.

I JUST WANT TO ANALYZE THE DATA FROM THIS LATEST BLACK BOX, THEN I'LL REST.

PROMISE.

RESPONSE TIME ON THE NEW HAND IS *GREAT.*

GOOD WORK, PAOLO.

OTHER THAN THE TISSUE THAT FEELS LIKE IT'S *ON FIRE*...IT'S...

I CAN BARELY TELL THE DIFFERENCE.

THANKS.

I'M JUST GLAD YOU'RE GOING TO BE OKAY.

I THOUGHT IT WAS OVER.

WHEN IT...

...CUT OFF MY ARM... I COULDN'T FIGHT ANYMORE, AND I...

...I BEGGED IT...

...I BEGGED IT TO *KILL ME.*

I HAVEN'T FELT THAT *WEAK* IN A LONG TIME.

IT'S OKAY.

YOU'RE *STILL* HERE. THAT'S WHAT *MATTERS.*

SHIT.

THE BLACK BOX IS ON!

WHY IS THE BLACK BOX ON?!

I...I DON'T UNDERSTAND...

I CONNECTED IT WHEN WE GOT ON THE SHIP, BUT NEVER TURNED IT ON.

THERE WAS *NO TIME.* WE WENT *STRAIGHT* INTO SURGERY FOR YOUR ARM.

I WAS GOING TO COME BACK AND TAKE IT OFFLINE BEFORE TURNING IT ON AND REVIEWING THE DATA.

I JUST NEVER HAD THE CHANCE.

DAMMIT.

SANDY, I NEED FOOTAGE OF ANYONE WHO'S BEEN IN THE CONTROL CENTER SINCE WE LEFT.

AND GIVE ME ANY INCOMING OR OUTGOING SIGNALS FROM THE BLACK BOX.

THERE HAVE BEEN--

ZZZZZTCH.

WHAT THE HELL IS GOING ON?

THERE.

SYSTEM HAS SWITCHED TO EMERGENCY BACKUP. THE SECURITY SYSTEM AND A.I. SHOULD BOTH BE ***DOWN.*** EVERYTHING WILL BE REROUTED TO KEEP THE SHIP OPERATIONAL USING ***MINIMAL*** RESOURCES.

THEY'RE GOING TO ***SPLIT UP.***

WHO KNOWS IF THETA IS BREATHING ANYMORE. SO IT'LL BE PAOLO COMING DOWN TO CHECK ON WHAT'S WRONG.

HE'S THE ***ONLY ONE*** WHO KNOWS HOW THIS SHIP OPERATES.

HE'S GOING TO KNOW ***SOMEONE'S*** MESSING WITH HIM, SO THERE'S NO WAY HE'S COMING ***ALONE,*** BUT HE'S NOT GOING TO LEAVE THE CONTROL ROOM UNATTENDED ***EITHER.***

WHICH MEANS IT'LL ONLY BE ALLEN OR OMAR IN THE CONTROL ROOM.

AND THEY'RE GOING TO BE ***ARMED.***

NO.

IT'S PROBABLY JUST A PANEL THAT NEEDS RESETTING. NOTHING TO ***WORRY*** ABOUT.

YOU KNOW THAT'S ***NOT*** TRUE. DON'T TRY TO PLACATE ME, PAOLO.

ALLEN! OMAR!

LOOK, I'LL TAKE OMAR WITH ME. JUST TO BE ***SAFE.***

ALLEN CAN WAIT WITH YOU.

AS SOON AS THE SYSTEM IS BACK UP, YOU RADIO ME AND GIVE ME THE ALL CLEAR FROM THE SECURITY CAMS.

OMAR AND I WILL FIND ***THE OTHERS,*** MAKE SURE EVERYONE'S OKAY AND ACCOUNTED FOR.

BUT THIS ***ISN'T*** A PREDATOR. I PROMISE.

WE'LL BE BACK IN FIVE, TEN MINUTES TOPS.

YOU WANT ME TO GET YOU ANYTHING?

WATER? TEA?

YOU EVEN *HAVE* TEA ON THIS THING?

NFFFF.

WHOA, NOW. I DON'T THINK YOU SHOULD BE UP, AND--

NEED... NEED TO GET TO THE... ARMORY.

NAH, YOUR MAN SAID WE NEED TO WAIT *HERE* UNTIL--

SOMETHING'S... WRONG...

UNLESS... YOU WANT TO... DIE IN HERE...

...WE NEED... WEAPONS.

THINK ABOUT WHAT YOU'RE DOING HERE, LUCAS.

THETA AND PAOLO SAVED US. THEY *RISKED* THEIR LIVES TO GET US OFF OF THAT PLANET, AND THIS IS HOW YOU *REPAY THEM?*

BY *HIJACKING* THEIR SHIP? TAKING THEM HOSTAGE?

THE INFORMATION THAT THETA AND PAOLO HAVE ON THIS SHIP COULD SAVE *THOUSANDS* OF LIVES. *MILLIONS*, MAYBE.

I APPRECIATE WHAT THEY DID FOR US, AWJA.

BUT THEM KEEPING *ALL* OF THIS INFORMATION, ALL OF THIS *KNOWLEDGE* TO *THEMSELVES* SO THAT THETA CAN CONTINUE HER OWN REVENGE CRUSADE AGAINST THE PREDATORS...

...IT'S *NOT* RIGHT. NOT WHEN SO MANY OTHERS CAN STILL BE *HELPED.*

I *PROMISE* YOU THOUGH, NO ONE WILL GET HURT.

AS SOON AS WE'RE BACK ON EARTH, EVERYONE WILL--

LUCAS! LOOK--

SHUNK

FWAK

SKRAAAAAW!

FWAP

OH SHIT.
OH SHIT.
OH SHIT.

YOU SEEM PRETTY CALM ABOUT ALL OF THIS, GIVEN HOW *FREAKED OUT* THETA WAS BACK THERE.

THE *SANDPIPER* IS AN *OLD SHIP* THAT'S PRETTY MUCH HELD TOGETHER BY SPIT AND A PRAYER.

SOMETHING'S *ALWAYS* GOING WRONG WITH IT. SOMETHING *ALWAYS* NEEDS TO BE FIXED.

THIS ISN'T THE FIRST--

SHIT.

THETA WAS *RIGHT.*

THIS WASN'T A MALFUNCTION. SOMEONE PULLED THIS PANEL OUT.

THIS WAS *DELIBERATE.*

SOMEONE'S MESSING WITH US.

EMPTY.

WELL, THAT DIDN'T TAKE THEM LONG.

MEANS THEY'LL BE BACK ANY SECOND.

I JUST NEED TO OVERRIDE THE MASTER CONTROL...

...AND...

TAKKA TAKKA TAKKA

WAIT...

NO. NO. NO. NO.

LUCAS! NO!

OH GOD, NO! WHAT DID THEY *DO* TO HIM?!

HANG ON. LET'S FIND--

ARMORY/CAMERA 6

DINING HALL/CAMERA 15

EAST WING/HALL F/CAMERA 32

WEST WING/HALL C/CAMERA 11

THOSE SONS OF BITCHES...

...I'M GONNA *KILL* THEM FOR--

WAIT.

LOOK.

WEST WING/HALL B/CAMERA 10

THE THING IS ON THE SHIP. *JESUS CHRIST...*

TAKKA TAKKA TAKKA

I NEED TO GET TO LUCAS. HE MIGHT *STILL* BE--

DON'T BE STUPID.

YOUR HUSBAND'S *DEAD.*

YOU STEP OUT OF THIS ROOM AND *YOU'RE* DEAD TOO.

WE'VE GOT THE SHIP. THIS IS WHAT YOU WANTED.

I'M CLOSING OFF ALL ACCESS POINTS TO THE CONTROL ROOM.

WE'LL BE SAFE AS LONG AS WE STAY *IN HERE.*

WHAT ABOUT THE REST OF THEM?

NOT OUR PROBLEM.

YOU CAN BARELY MOVE ON YOUR OWN. HOW YOU GONNA MANAGE WITH ALL THAT *EXTRA WEIGHT* ON YOU?

ARMOR HAS A POWERED... EXOSKELETON BUILT IN. MORE MOBILE... WITH IT ON...

GRAB ANYTHING...THAT FITS... GOING TO NEED IT.

YOU WERE A SOLDIER... RIGHT?

NAH. I WAS NEVER IN THE MILITARY.

WORKED FOR THE MONARCH. A CRIME FIRM, BASED OUTTA LEEDS. THOUGH I BEEN GONE FOR ABOUT EIGHTY YEARS NOW, I GUESS.

NOT SURE IF THEY'RE STILL AROUND NO MORE.

THEY USED TO CALL ME ALLEN "THE AXE" ADKINS.

I WAS AN ENFORCER. YOU SAW ME COMIN', YOU KNEW YOU DONE MESSED UP REAL BAD.

NOT PROUD OF IT.

BUT IF YOU WANNA KNOW IF I CAN FIGHT...

...JUST LEAD THE WAY.

THETA, WE HAVE A PROBLEM.

THETA?

SANDY?

SHIT.

SHE NOT ANSWERING?

IT'S NOT THAT.

THE COMMS ARE DOWN.

THE CONTROL PANEL SHOULD HAVE BROUGHT THEM BACK ONLINE.

YOU SAID IT YOURSELF-- THE SHIP AIN'T WHAT IT USED TO BE.

NO...

...SOMEONE'S TAKEN THEM OFFLINE.

SOMEONE'S *TRYING* TO KEEP US IN THE DARK.

5

SKRAAAAAAW!

OMAR!

NFFFFGH!

BLAM

GET OFF HIM, YOU BASTARD!

SHK

WHUMP

ARRRGGH!

NO!

SKUNK

STAY BACK! STAY BACK! STAY BACK!

BLAM

FWAK

OH GOD, PLEASE HOLD. PLEASE HOLD.

CLANK

YOU HEAR THAT, ALLEN?

SHOTS.

AYE. NOT GOOD.

WE NEED TO FIND THE OTHERS.

THETA, I'VE BEEN THINKING.

I'VE BEEN GONE A ***LONG TIME.*** EIGHTY YEARS OR SO. EVERYONE I KNOW ON EARTH'S ***DEAD.*** THERE'S ***NOTHING*** LEFT FOR ME TO GO BACK TO.

HOW'S ABOUT I STICK WITH YOU AND PAOLO? HELP YOU FIND THESE ***BASTARDS,*** GIVE 'EM ***WHAT FOR.***

I GOT A LIFETIME OF BREAKIN' SKULLS UNDER MY BELT. WOULD LIKE TO USE THOSE SKILLS TO DO GOOD FOR ONCE.

SURE. WE COULD ***ALWAYS*** USE ANOTHER SET OF HANDS AROUND HERE.

WHERE DID IT GO?

KIYOSHI, WE CAN'T JUST LEAVE THE OTHERS OUT THERE TO BE KILLED BY THAT THING. IT'S NOT *RIGHT.*

WE NEED TO--

WHAT?

WARN THEM?

YOU WANT TO GO *OUT THERE* WITH THAT THING? YOU'VE *SEEN* WHAT IT CAN DO. WE'RE *SAFE* IN HERE, ISLA--IT'S *NOT* OUR PROBLEM NOW.

DAMMIT. DAMMIT. DAMMIT.

PAOLO!

FWUMP FWUMP FWUMP

PAOLO! IN HERE!

HELP!

AWJA?

ONE OF THOSE *THINGS* IS ON THE SHIP! IT GOT TO LUCAS!

HOLD ON!

JESUS... POOR LUCAS...

ARE THE OTHERS...?

I'M NOT SURE. BUT OMAR...HE'S GONE.

WELL, I'LL BE DAMNED IF I'M GOING TO LET IT KILL *ANYONE ELSE.*

JESUS CHRIST!

IT'S ME!

I ALMOST SHOT YOU!

THERE'S A PREDATOR ON BOARD. IT ALREADY GOT OMAR AND LUCAS.

SHIT.

ISLA AND KIYOSHI?

KIYOSHI AND ISLA ARE TRYING TO *STAGE A COUP.* THEY WANT TO *TAKE OVER* THE SHIP.

LUCAS WAS STANDING GUARD OVER ME, UNTIL--

KIYOSHI HAS *TAKEN* THE CONTROL DECK.

I'M SORRY. I DIDN'T MEAN FOR IT TO GO THIS--

YOU TRAITOROUS SHIT HEEL!

I...

JUST LISTEN, PLEASE. LUCAS AND I, WE HAVE A DAUGHTER, ***AVA***. SHE WAS 4 WHEN WE... WHEN THEY ***TOOK US***.

SHE'D HAVE TO BE IN HER ***FORTIES*** NOW. OLDER THAN LUCAS AND ME. MAYBE SHE'S GOT A FAMILY OF HER OWN.

WE...WE THOUGHT THAT IF WE COULD BRING THIS SHIP BACK, IF WE COULD BRING BACK ALL THIS ***INFORMATION***, SHOW O.W.L.F. HOW TO ***FIGHT*** THESE THINGS...

...THAT MAYBE WE COULD COME BACK ***HEROES***.

BECAUSE RIGHT NOW, ALL SHE KNOWS IS THAT WE ***ABANDONED*** HER. THAT WE JUST ***DISAPPEARED*** FROM HER LIFE.

I JUST... I THOUGHT IF WE CAME BACK AND HAD ALL OF THIS, THEN SHE WOULD AT LEAST KNOW IT WASN'T ALL FOR ***NOTHING***.

THAT WE DID SOMETHING ***IMPORTANT***.

I DIDN'T WANT FOR THIS TO HAPPEN. IT'S JUST, WHEN I SAW WHAT WAS ON THAT DEVICE YOU TOOK FROM THEIR SHIP, I--

YOU TURNED ON THE BLACK BOX?

I...

YES.

YOU'RE THE ONE WHO GAVE AWAY OUR POSITION TO THE PREDATOR. OMAR AND LUCAS ARE DEAD ***BECAUSE OF YOU***.

I'M SURE YOUR DAUGHTER WILL BE ***VERY PROUD***.

CONGRATULATIONS.

DAMMIT, ISLA. I WARNED YOU WHAT WOULD HAPPEN IF YOU LEFT.

THWUK THWUK

YOU'RE *CRAZY* IF YOU THINK I'M OPENING THESE DOORS...

CLK

...WHILE THAT *CREATURE'S* OUT THERE STALKING THE HALLS.

PAOLO, CAN YOU REWIRE POWER TO THE DOORS OF THE CONTROL DECK AND GET US INSIDE?

YEAH, I THINK IF I REROUTE THE--

I DON'T NEED TO KNOW *HOW*, JUST *IF*.

WE'LL BUY YOU *AS MUCH* TIME AS YOU *NEED*.

IT'S THE ONLY ROOM ON THE SHIP REINFORCED ENOUGH TO KEEP THE PREDATOR OUT.

IF WE CAN'T GET IN, WE'RE SITTING DUCKS.

YES. BUT IT'LL TAKE A LITTLE TIME.

THETA, I NEED YOU TO KNOW HOW *SORRY* I FEEL THAT--

I DON'T CARE *HOW* YOU FEEL.

I DIDN'T KNOW THAT IT WOULD--

SHOOM

SHIT!

WE'VE GOT CONTACT.

SCRAAAT

BRAKKA BRAKKA BRAKKA

BLAM

BLAM

LIGHT HIM UP!

WE'RE CORNERED HERE. WE DON'T TAKE HIM DOWN, *WE'RE DEAD.*

SHUK

ALLEN!

BRAKKABRAKKABRA

BLAM

WATCH YOUR *CROSSFIRE!*

PAOLO, LEAVE THE DOOR. WE NEED *ALL HANDS!*

I ALMOST HAVE--

BLAM

BRAKKA

PAOLO! NOW!

JUST...

SHIK

WE'RE GOOD! LET'S GO!

CLOSE IT.

KIYOSHI, YOU--

NOW.

SNAK

NOW YOU CAN CLOSE IT.

SNAK

CLOSE THE DOOR, PAOLO.

SKRAAAAAAAAW!

IT'S *TOO LATE*--WE NEED TO GET IT OUT OF HERE!

BLAM

SHOOK

FWAK

UGH!

SNAK

SHUNK

NFFFFF.

NO!

GET OFF ME, YOU--

SKRRAAAAAAAAW!

SKRRAAAAAAAAW!

SKRRAAAAAAAAW!

FWAK

GET OFF HER, ASSHOLE!

HERE.

BRAKKA BRAKKA BRAKKA

TUSKET.
SIX MONTHS LATER.

I'M SORRY I COULDN'T GET YOU ANY CLOSER TO THE ASTAR BASE...

...BUT IF THEY KNOW I'M HERE, THEY'LL TRY TO COMMANDEER MY SHIP AGAIN.

IT'S OKAY. AFTER ALL WE'VE BEEN THROUGH, FIVE KLICKS THROUGH THE SNOW TO *FREEDOM* IS *NOTHING.*

ARE YOU SURE ABOUT GIVING THE O.W.L.F. ONE OF YOUR BLACK BOXES?

ISLA WAS RIGHT. I SHOULD BE SHARING THE INFORMATION I'VE GOT ON THE PREDATORS. I TRUST YOU TO GET IT TO THEM.

I'VE BEEN STUCK ON THIS PERSONAL VENDETTA FOR DECADES, EVER SINCE ONE OF THOSE THINGS KILLED MY PARENTS, AND I HAVEN'T STOPPED TO THINK ABOUT WHAT THE *REST OF THE WORLD* KNOWS ABOUT THESE THINGS.

I THOUGHT WE COULD SAVE THE EIGHT OF YOU. AND LOOK HOW THAT TURNED OUT.

CLEARLY, PAOLO AND I CAN'T KEEP DOING THIS ON OUR OWN.

IF YOU HADN'T COME ALONG, *ALL* OF US WOULD BE DEAD.

SMALL VICTORIES ARE STILL VICTORIES.

WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO NOW?

IF THE PREDATORS ARE KEEPING PEOPLE IN STASIS FOR THEIR HUNTS...

...THEN WE NEED TO FIND THEM.

GOOD LUCK.

AND THANK YOU AGAIN. FOR EVERYTHING.

YOU BETTER HEAD OUT BEFORE THE STORM COMES IN.

ALL RIGHT, SANDY.

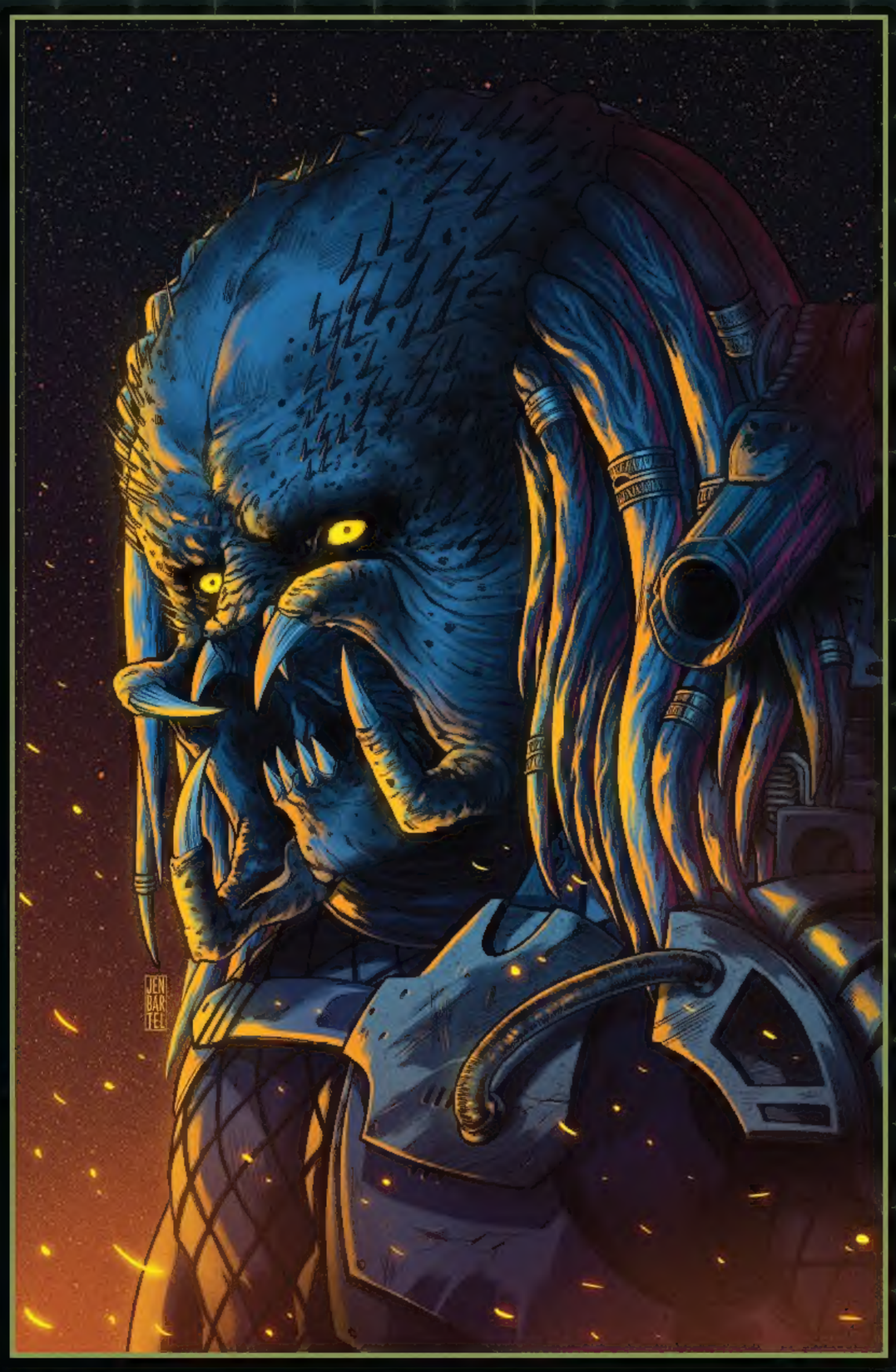
YES, THETA?

YOU TOO.

LET'S GET HUNTING.

THE END.

#1 VARIANT BY **BJÖRN BARENDS**



#1 VARIANT BY **JEN BARTEL**

#1 VARIANT BY **PAULO SIQUEIRA & YEN NITRO**

#2 VARIANT BY **RYAN BROWN**

#2 VARIANT BY **GEOFFREY SHAW & LAURA MARTIN**

#3 VARIANT BY **MARTÍN CÓCCOLO & NEERAJ MENON**

#4 VARIANT BY **JUNGGEUN YOON**

#5 VARIANT BY **TYLER KIRKHAM & ARIF PRIANTO**

PREDATOR™

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On a planet far from Earth, eight strangers find themselves in a deadly game. But this time, the Predators aren't the only ones on the hunt. Someone has the Yautja in their sights — and they've been searching for the Predators' game preserve for a long time. Theta Berwick is back, still hell-bent on revenge — and her kill count is climbing! But when she's ambushed by a Predator, is it the same enemy she's been tracking all these years? Without her weaponry, is she prepared to take it on one-on-one? And just what — and who — will Theta be willing to sacrifice to quench her thirst for vengeance? Prepare for the ultimate hunt — it's going to be a bloodbath!

MARVEL COMICS PRESENTS

PREDATOR: THE PRESERVE

COLLECTING *PREDATOR (2023) #1-5* — BY ED BRISSON, NETHO DIAZ, BELARDINO BRABO, VICTOR NAVA, ROBERTO POGGI AND ERICK ARCINIEGA.

"Will leave fans of the franchise invigorated." – **GRAPHIC POLICY**

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